

# Wycliffe's Last Languages Campaign Nears \$250 Million at Second Anniversary

✖ *World's Largest Bible Translation Organization Bucks Nonprofit Fundraising Trends*

Wycliffe Bible Translators celebrated the second anniversary of its Last Languages Campaign today by announcing it has raised nearly \$250 million of the program's \$1 billion goal—marking a year of financial gains despite a continuing rough economy.

“In the midst of the most severe economic downturn since the Great Depression, God is providing for this ambitious project,” Wycliffe USA President and CEO Bob Creson said. “To raise nearly a quarter of a billion dollars in two years is impressive even in a booming economy. In the current climate, it's nothing short of miraculous. We are so grateful to God, and our supporters who partner with us to make sure that all people have access to the Bible in the language and form that is most meaningful to them.”

Not all charitable organizations have experienced Wycliffe's success. Giving to the nation's 400 largest charities dropped 11 percent in 2009,

an

October report from the Chronicle of Philanthropy found. Wycliffe's income increased 31.3 percent during that time, putting it in the top 10 percent of large charities in terms of growth.

More than

2,000 languages, spoken by more than 350 million people, still lack translations of the Bible. Wycliffe's mission is to see a Bible translation started in every language that needs one by the year 2025.

The Last Languages Campaign, launched in November 2008, has as its goal the gathering of people, prayer and financial resources needed to accomplish Wycliffe's mission.

"In spite of economic

uncertainty at home and a daunting task abroad—including political roadblocks, security concerns, restricted access to certain locations

and the sheer number of languages yet to be translated— we are is

participating in the greatest acceleration of the pace of Bible

translation in history," Creson said. "These financial recourses will

ensure that the mission stays on this pace."

Wycliffe

personnel collaborate with partners and local indigenous workers to

bring Scripture to minority people groups—often overcoming injustices

like poverty, illiteracy, and inadequate access to critical health information in the process of translating the Bible. In some cases, Wycliffe's work helps to preserve languages that are struggling to survive.

#### Fast Facts About the Last Languages Campaign:

- 6800+ ... the number of languages spoken in the world
- 2000+ ... the number of languages without Scripture
- 340 million ... the number of people who speak the 2,000 languages without translation
- \$231,500,000+ ... the amount given or pledged to the Last Languages Campaign as of October 31, 2010
- 1525+ ... the number of translation programs where Wycliffe is currently at work, affecting over 2 billion people
- 5 days ... a new translation program is started about every five days, down from every 18 days before launching Vision 2025- to see a Bible translation program started in every language group that needs one by the year 2025.

#### About Wycliffe Bible Translators

Founded in 1942, Wycliffe Bible Translators exists to make the Bible accessible to all people in the language and form that is most meaningful to them. Wycliffe has nearly 6,000 translators, linguists, aviators, humanitarian workers, educators and administrators, along with dozens of partnering organizations, and is working in 90

countries on  
six continents. For more information, visit .